

Institute of Physics – L & S E Branch – Retired Members Section
Drury Lane Theatre and Covent Garden
on Thursday 13 November 2014

This meeting has been organised by George Freeman

The **Theatre Royal, Drury Lane** was first set up in about 1663 when Charles II allowed theatres to open again after the Cromwellian Period. It is the oldest continuously used theatre on its original site in London. It has recently been restored to its Regency splendour. Backstage and the stage are very modern with all the latest facilities. George III and the Prince Regent both loved the theatre but were not on speaking terms so the theatre has the King's side and the Prince's side with their boxes. (They never went there on the same occasion!) The current show is "Charlie and The Chocolate Factory" with its cast of children as well as adult actors.

We will start with instant coffee and Mark Fox, their advertising manager, will talk to us and take us on a tour of the auditorium, stage and backstage.

After lunch, Martin Olutniks will take us around Covent Garden telling us of the history from the time it was the garden of a convent, through its time as a vegetable and fruit market to the present tourist attraction.

10:30 – 11:00	Meet in foyer
11:00 – 13:00	Tour
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch
14:30 – 16:00	Covent Garden tour

Meet in the foyer of Drury Lane Theatre, Catherine Street.

Lunch

Cost £23 for a maximum of 30. Lunch at cost

Contacts

Before the meeting George Freeman georgefreeman@georgefreeman.force9.net 020 8979 1271
On the morning only - George Freeman 07941 916 944 or Tony Colclough 07930 171307.